

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH. HIGHLY INTERESTING FROM WASHINGTON. POSTAGE REFORM IN THE HOUSE. THE THREE CENT RATE ADOPTED.

African Colonization in the Senate. SPEECH OF MR. CLAY. Presentation of Petitions for the Repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law, &c., &c., &c.

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS. SECOND SESSION. BY BAIN'S ELECTRO-CHEMICAL TELEGRAPH. WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1851.

THE PATENT LAWS. Mr. DICKINSON presented three petitions about amending patent laws. COLONIZATION AND ANTI-SLAVERY TRADE PETITIONS. Mr. CLAY presented petitions from Indians, praying that Congress would adopt some steps to remove all those free colored people in the United States who are willing to go to Africa, and that provision be made for their support for one year after their arrival there. Also, a petition from Rhode Island, signed by every member of the State Senate, most of the members of the House, by ex-Governors, ex-Senators, ex-Members of the Legislature, by many of the literati of the State, by many heads of colleges, and by the great body of citizens in private life. They pray that more effectual means may be adopted for the suppression of African slave trade. They depict the horrors of the trade in vivid colors, and represent that the measures adopted by Great Britain, France, and the United States, by keeping up a squadron on the coast of Africa, have been a failure. They represent that the only effectual remedy for the suppression of the African slave trade, is the encouragement and establishment of colonies in the interior of Africa. The colonies now there, within their limits, have wholly suppressed the trade, and they occupy one-third of the coast. The petitioners ask that a fleet of steamers, or of packet vessels, be established to ply between the United States and the coast of Africa.

Mr. CLAY said that these petitions had suggested to him the importance of the subject. He alluded to the report lately sent to the Senate by the State Department, in which it appeared that the importation of slaves into Brazil, Cuba, and other southern countries, has increased immensely. This trade is mainly carried on by American vessels. Ninety-three American vessels cleared within one year from ports in Brazil for the coast of Africa. These American vessels were sold in the Brazilian ports, on condition that they be delivered in ports on the coast of Africa. The vessel, when actually sold, sails to Africa under the American flag. When arrived there the Captain sees the vessel, and then he is to deliver the vessel. He then informs his crew that the vessel is sold; that a new crew is to be shipped, and that the American flag is to come down. The poor sailors have the alternative to remain and perish from want on the coast of Africa, or to re-ship in and navigate the vessel with a cargo of slaves, to Brazil. It had been recommended as a means of breaking up this proceeding, that the United States shall refuse to grant letters, or other documents allowing vessels to sail from any of these ports to the coast of Africa; for there is no failure, so far as concerns stopping of the slave trade; at all events, it is ascertained that the good results are not obtained. The great cost and sacrifice of health and life, in keeping a squadron up, on the coast of Africa, keep up a squadron on the coast of Africa under the flag of the United States, amounting to a force of eighty guns, and also a squadron on the coast of Brazil. These squadrons cost half a million of dollars annually, besides a great sacrifice of life and health. He thought that if these squadrons—as they did not prevent the trade—were withdrawn, there would not be such a sacrifice of American lives. He thought that there was no effectual remedy to suppress the trade, except to encourage colonies in the interior of Africa, and thus stop the trade at its source. By the treaty of Washington, the United States were only obliged to keep a squadron on the coast of Africa for five years. Five years have long since expired. It was a question of financial economy, whether this squadron should be kept up at the expense of the lives of the sailors, or whether it should be withdrawn, and the money be applied to the establishment of colonies in the interior of Africa. There was no project of the age equal to that of the people of color. What was to be done here? In this city, under the eyes of Congress, their number has been doubled in the last few years. Many of them are educated, and have already adopted legislation for their exclusion, and prohibitions against them have been adopted in several of the States of the Union. What is to be done for the people of color? What is to be done for the people of the South to conduct and manage their own domestic affairs for themselves. If they are to be considered as a part of the population, they will join with us in this grand plan, and aid us in every effort to benefit the race, and to remove the stain of slavery from the land. The law is to be passed, and the people of color are to be treated as a part of the population. The law is to be passed, and the people of color are to be treated as a part of the population. The law is to be passed, and the people of color are to be treated as a part of the population.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. BY BAIN'S ELECTRO-CHEMICAL TELEGRAPH. WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1851. CHIEF CLERK. The House went into committee on the Postage bill. The question was taken on agreeing to the amendment pending yesterday, providing three cents on single letters of half an ounce, and five cents if not prepaid. No diminution of mail facilities, nor reductions of compensation to postmasters, should the bill pass. Rejected, only two members voting in the affirmative. Mr. Brown (dem.) of Ia., offered an amendment charging three cents for distances under three hundred miles, and over that distance five cents; nor shall the mail facilities be diminished nor postmaster salaries reduced by the act. Rejected, 52 to 72. Mr. DIMICK (dem.) of Penn., proposed, three, five and ten cent postage, according to distance. Rejected, yeas 8, nays not counted. Mr. TORREY (dem.) of Ohio, offered a substitute for the first section of the original bill, namely, upon this letter not weighing over one half ounce, one cent, and for each additional half ounce or fraction of half an ounce, three cents—provided no post office was existing shall be discontinued; nor shall the mail service be diminished, nor shall the facilities be diminished in consequence of any diminution of the postmaster salaries. The amendment was rejected. The bill was then passed. The first section was thus disposed of by the committee. The committee proceeded to the consideration of the second section of the bill. Mr. FOSTER moved a substitute for it, charging, on printed matter, moving two ounces, one cent, books, not exceeding thirty ounces, shall be deemed suitable matter, provided that newspapers delivered in the State where published, shall be chargeable with only one half any other rate. Various amendments were offered to this proposition, and rejected. Two amendments, similar in substance, were agreed to—that no postage shall be charged on newspapers mailed and delivered in the county where published, nor within thirty miles of the place of publication. Another amendment was agreed to, directing fifty per cent on magazine postage, when prepaid. Without perfecting the second section, the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

INTERESTING FROM WASHINGTON. FLARE UP IN VIRGINIA. A FUGITIVE SLAVE—CONGRESSIONAL DOINGS—TREATY WITH THE TEXAS INDIANS, &c. WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1851. On the election of a Judge, there has been a flare up in the Virginia Legislature, which, it is thought, will dissolve the democratic party. Mr. Parker, a compromise man, has been elected. The Virginia Legislature is looking up to-day. The Senate Spoliations bill of five millions will be before the Senate to-morrow. The government agents have recently effected treaties with the Texas Indians, by which the Indians promise the restitution of all stolen property, and the prisoners in their possession. Some tribes were not represented in the councils, particularly the Comanches. The agents report strong hopes of thereby inducing them to enter into similar conditions, with more faithful compliance in future.

HEAVY GALE—STREMBENT DISASTER. NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 11, 1851. The steamship Alabama was caught in a violent "norther," and compelled to put into Touhouste, where she remained for seven days. The Alabama has been three weeks in making the passage, and it was feared she was lost. A collision occurred to-day, between the steamers Princeton and Alamo, by which the former was sunk. All on board were rescued, except one man. Her cargo, consisting of cotton, was saved. TREMENDOUS CONFLAGRATION OF GREASE—LOSS \$100,000. CINCINNATI, Jan. 15, 1851. The extensive lard and candle factory of Messrs. Gross & Dietrich, which was totally destroyed by fire last night, was valued at about \$100,000. The fire broke out at five o'clock, and in half an hour it was a mass of flames. The fire was extinguished by the fire engine, but the damage was irreparable. The factory was insured for \$100,000, and the loss was covered.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE. SENATE. BY MORSE'S MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH. ALBANY, Jan. 15, 1851. PETITIONS. For amendment of the Commissioner's map of Brooklyn; for the redemption of country bank notes in the city of New York. BILLS REPORTED. Bills were reported prohibiting the members of mutual insurance companies from voting for directors by proxy; to repeal the charter of the Croton Turnpike Company. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION. For the reduction of postage—referred to the Literature Committee. BILLS INTRODUCED AND NOTICED. A bill was introduced by Mr. MORGAN, to amend the General Banking Law. Notice was given of a bill to establish a uniform standard of weights and measures. The Senate adjourned, to sit on the annual meeting of the State Agricultural Society.

Assembly. ALBANY, January 15, 1851. PETITIONS PRESENTED. Of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, asking for an amendment of the charter; of —, praying for a reduction of railroad fare; of free colored men of Albany, for a law protecting them from arrest; for the repeal or modification of the Militia Law. From the Judiciary Committee, unfavorably, upon the petition asking for an amendment of the charter of the city of Brooklyn; from a select committee, a bill amending the act incorporating mining and manufacturing associations. BILLS INTRODUCED. To provide for the incorporation of building associations; to amend the act incorporating the Mutual Insurance Company of New York.

Pennsylvania Legislature. HARRISBURG, January 15, 1851. Bills have been introduced in the Senate to charter the Mechanics' Bank of Pittsburgh; relating to partnerships in this Commonwealth; to extend the charter of the Schuylkill Bank, of Philadelphia, and to reduce the capital; also one to apportion the State into twenty judicial districts. A resolution was offered and adopted to read the report of the Executive Council, and the committee constituting each, the salaries of the judges, &c. Bills were introduced to charter the Bank of Tanamach, and revise the militia system of the Commonwealth. Interesting from Yucatan—Declaration of Independence, &c. NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 11, 1851. The steamship Alabama brings news from the city of Mexico to the fact, that the Yucatan has pronounced against the supreme government, and declared herself independent of Mexico. Advice from the city of Mexico to January 1st, fifteen days later, are at hand. Except the continuance of Indian troubles, the country remains quiet.

Serious Affray. BY HOUSE'S PRINTING TELEGRAPH, 3 WALL STREET. ALBANY, Jan. 15, 1851. We learn that, on Tuesday night, three young men, residents of Cohoes, were coming to West Troy, and in passing through the toll gate, drove on the wrong side, when the gate keeper requested them to back out and pass through the gate that was open. In attempting to do so, the shafts of the cutter were broken. They asked for a light, and when Mr. Abbott, the gate keeper, opened his door, the men pulled him out of the office, knocked him down, and otherwise beat him. Mr. Abbott shot the man, whose name is unknown, and the other two were killed. King and the other man are in custody. Seizure of the Niagara. BOSTON, Jan. 15, 1851. The Royal Mail steamship Niagara sailed at noon, with fifty-eight passengers, for Liverpool, and ten for Halifax. She took out \$4,800 in gold dust, \$9,000 in sovereigns, and \$100,000 in silver dollars—the latter from Canada. New York State Agricultural Society. ALBANY, January 15, 1851. The President called the meeting to order in the Assembly chamber at 12 o'clock, when the Secretary called the list of the members, and afterwards proceeded to read the report of the Executive Council, which is quite long, and embraces all the operations of the Society for the past year.

Metereological Observations. BY MORSE'S TELEGRAPH LINE, 16 WALL STREET. BUFFALO, January 15—8 A.M. Wind from the south, blowing very fast. It is a beautiful morning, and the sun is shining. 8 P.M.—The wind is still strong, and it has thawed rapidly. The thermometer continued falling until 6 o'clock, but is now rising. ROCHESTER, January 15—8 A.M. It is a beautiful spring-like morning, mild and pleasant. There is no snow here; the roads are bare; the thermometer stands at 48 degrees above zero. 6 P.M.—This has been a very lovely spring day, warm and fine. The sun has shown out clear and bright, and the snow is fast disappearing. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. OVERSEA, January 15—8 A.M. There is a mild snow, and the snow is fast disappearing. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. 8 P.M.—The weather is still pleasant, and it is thawing quite fast. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. SYRACUSE, January 15—8 A.M. It is a beautiful spring-like morning, mild and pleasant. There is no snow here; the roads are bare; the thermometer stands at 48 degrees above zero. 6 P.M.—This has been a very lovely spring day, warm and fine. The sun has shown out clear and bright, and the snow is fast disappearing. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero.

THE WEATHER. Utica, January 15—8 A.M. The weather is beautiful, and the sun is shining. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. 6 P.M.—The weather is still pleasant, and it is thawing quite fast. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. ALBANY, January 15—8 A.M. The weather is beautiful, and the sun is shining. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. 6 P.M.—The weather is still pleasant, and it is thawing quite fast. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. BOSTON, January 15—8 A.M. The weather is beautiful, and the sun is shining. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. 6 P.M.—The weather is still pleasant, and it is thawing quite fast. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. NEW YORK, January 15—8 A.M. The weather is beautiful, and the sun is shining. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero. 6 P.M.—The weather is still pleasant, and it is thawing quite fast. The thermometer at 48 degrees above zero.

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The Elections for U. S. Senators. MASSACHUSETTS. BOSTON, Jan. 15, 1851. The House refused, by forty-eight majority, to postpone the election of United States Senator, and proceeded to THE FIRST BALLOT. Charles Sumner, 185 Robert C. Winthrop, 172 Seattering, 207 Whole number of votes cast, 387 Necessary to a choice, 194 Though both democratic and free soilers resolved, in caucus, not to adjourn without electing a United States Senator, yet after the first ballot, they were left in a minority, and a motion to adjourn was carried by eight votes. The free soilers declare that if Sumner is not elected, Mr. Boutwell will be requested to resign. There is much excitement, and it is generally conceded that Mr. Sumner cannot be elected. The free soilers have unanimously resolved to nominate no other candidate; and, in the present state of affairs, they demand that the democratic shall not use the power given to them, through their means, to displace any person at present holding office.

MISSOURI. JEFFERSON CITY, Jan. 15, 1851. There has been much more balloting for United States Senator, but with the same result as those last reported. Debates of angry character occurred between the two wings of the democracy, which occupied nearly the entire day. Mr. Benton's character was discussed and defended, at considerable length. The Niagara Smuggling Case. BOSTON, Jan. 15, 1851. Deliver was examined to-day, on the charge of smuggling from the Niagara, and was committed for trial to March. Captain Lelock testified that he had received a letter from Brown, the captain of the ship, dated and postmarked "New York," containing as to the smuggling of the goods, and stating that he was guilty.

Pedestrianism. SPRINGFIELD, January 15, 1851. A great foot race, for \$500 a side, came off at Longmeadow, this afternoon. A young Englishman, named Poole, undertook to run five miles in 31 minutes—about the time that it takes a horse to gallop a mile. Although the track was muddy, he will, to spare, at another stage of the same amount, undertake to do in 28 minutes. Great excitement is manifested here as to the result. Panorama of Broadway Burned. ROCHESTER, January 15, 1851. A fire broke out about half past three o'clock this afternoon, in Conser's Hall, on State street, which, for some time, threatened serious damage to the entire block. The fire was caused by a gas lamp, and the firemen it did not spread. Bullard's Panorama of Broadway, valued at about \$15,000 was consumed.

Mayor of Pittsburgh. PITTSBURGH, Jan. 14, 1851. John R. Guthrie, democrat, has been elected Mayor of this city. Court of Appeals. ALBANY, Jan. 15, 1851. No. 23, reversed, 24, affirmed, 116, submitted, 102, submitted, 101. The case of the People v. the Mayor of New York, was argued on the 23d and 24th inst. The Reception of Jenny Lind at Havana. MADRID, Jan. 15, 1851. Jenny Lind arrived at Havana on Saturday, the 4th inst. In the label, from Charleston, as mentioned in the Herald yesterday. She went ashore in a custom house boat as soon as the label got into the harbor. There was no demonstration on her landing—only about a dozen persons on the shore. She proceeded to a new house opened for her by Mr. De Forest, and found a house with a garden, and all the comforts of life. She remained only a couple of days, and left on the morning of the 6th inst., and has taken a house on the Paseo, outside the walls. Her first concert was to have been given on Friday the 10th inst. She will not give more than two or three concerts. There was very little said about her.

The Havana correspondent of the New York Advertiser, under date of the 8th inst., says:— Jenny Lind arrived here on the morning of the 4th, and to her astonishment, there was not a soul on the shore to receive her. She was taken to a hotel, and the captain of the ship, and the officers of the ship, were the only ones who were with her. She remained only a couple of days, and left on the morning of the 6th inst., and has taken a house on the Paseo, outside the walls. Her first concert was to have been given on Friday the 10th inst. She will not give more than two or three concerts. There was very little said about her.

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TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE IN TWENTY-FIRST STREET. FALL OF SIX NEWPIRE-STORY HOUSES. NUMBERS BURIED IN THE RUINS. SIX MEN TAKEN OUT DEAD. Many More Supposed to be Killed. SEVERAL MORE OR LESS INJURED. Yesterday afternoon, at half-past one o'clock, one of those terrible accidents occurred in our city which have become so frequent of late, and are so decidedly the result of recklessness of human life, and an inordinate desire to grow suddenly rich at the expense of humanity, that our citizens are becoming seriously alarmed at their personal security, not knowing the day or the hour when they may be overwhelmed in those rotten fabrics which are called houses. There was no wind—no storm—nothing to excite the material, and the absolute insufficiency of the materials, and the insecure manner in which they were built. Yet they were to have brown stone fronts, and to be very elegant when finished, like the white marble temples mentioned in scripture, outwardly beautiful to look upon, but within full of rottenness. The misfortune is, that these houses are not isolated cases, all through the city the same sort of work is being run up, to the danger of the lives of the workmen, the passers by, or the inhabitants, should these structures stand so long. The six buildings, which are the cause of the loss of so much of human life, were being built on what is called speculation; that is, they were to be sold or leased as soon as completed. They are situated in Twenty-first street (south side), between Fifth and Sixth streets. The proprietors were Thomas A. Smith and Mr. Pell, the former being the owner of the ground. The agent was Mr. James J. Glenworth, who contracted with George Spencer to be architect, builder and carpenter. They were to be paid for by instalments, at so much per story, as each story was completed, and the last payment had been just made. The rear and end walls of the range were finished, also the party walls, and yesterday they were laying the roof beams, but the front was still left open, the brown stone, of which it was to be constructed, not having arrived; and this blunder was, in a great degree, the cause of the catastrophe, for had the front been built, the whole would have been a different matter, and the firemen it did not spread. Bullard's Panorama of Broadway, valued at about \$15,000 was consumed.

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